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Director, Central Intelligence

2 May 1949

Assistant Director, Office of Reports and Estimates

Requirements for [REDACTED] (P&P 1071) 25X1A

1. Transmitted herewith are intelligence information requirements for briefing [REDACTED] for his projected European trip. 25X1A

25X6A

2. The requirements for [REDACTED] have been purposely written in generalities, inasmuch as [REDACTED] is considered to be completely self-briefing on this area. 25X1A

3. For purposes of evaluation of the material in response to these requirements, it will be helpful if the information is sent through with identification of source of reference to the assigned P&P number.

THEODORE BARBITT

25X1A9a

S/PP: [REDACTED]

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AB-8

Statement of Requirements

**GENERAL**

1. Attitude of Western European governments toward US request for cooperation with US export controls.
2. Information on transit trade to the East, especially through Switzerland and Belgium.

**FRANCE**

1. Future French policy toward Germany.
2. Likelihood that the French Government will continue its close cooperation with US - UK in the East-West struggle, even though the USSR should offer France attractive proposals during a coming Conference of Foreign Ministers.
3. Likelihood of revaluation of the franc in the near future.
4. Estimate of effects on crops and hydroelectric power if the drought in France should continue.

**BELGIUM**

1. Comment on current attitude of the Government, party leaders, economic groups regarding the East-West tension. Estimate of reaction of Belgian Government leaders and major parties to a prolonged "peace offensive" by the USSR. Attitude toward western powers' reluctance to compromise? Influence of such attitudes on Belgian cooperation under the Atlantic Pact.
2. Current attitude of government officials, leading party spokesmen, and representatives of labor and industrial interests toward the West German constitution, economic revival of Germany, acquisition of German territory along Belgium's border. Belgian opinion on role Germany should play in Western Europe.
3. Likelihood that pre-electoral campaigning may prevent effective Catholic Socialist cooperation after the elections. Will the Socialists be willing to join a coalition with the Catholic Party if the latter becomes the majority party? Likelihood that the Catholics may attempt to effect the return of Leopold if they win a majority. Indications that the Socialists and Catholics are attempting to reach a satisfactory agreement on status of Leopold.
4. Do responsible Government officials believe that unemployment will decrease substantially during 1949? Do they believe that it will remain a chronic problem?
5. Has any concrete plan been formulated for financing the Netherlands import balance with Belgium when the Benelux Economic Union becomes effective on 1 July 1950 and the expected increase in Dutch imports of Belgian goods takes place?

**NETHERLANDS**

1. and 2 - as under Belgium above
3. Current views of Government officials, party leaders, industrialists and labor leaders on the Indonesian situation.

#### SWITZERLAND

1. Government sentiment as to best present basis for Swiss foreign policy:
  - a. armed neutrality
  - b. close formal economic, political and military integration with Western Europe
2. Possibility that the Swiss franc may be devalued.

#### ITALY

1. How realistically is the Italian Government considering its economic problems?
2. Progress on plan for reform of the tax structure.
3. Extent to which the ERP potential is being utilized for economic rehabilitation.

25X6A

#### SWEDEN

1. Indications that Swedish government officials are beginning to doubt validity of their neutrality policy
2. What, if anything, short of aggression against Sweden might cause her to abandon neutrality?
3. Has the further isolation of Sweden brought about by Norwegian and Danish adherence to the North Atlantic Pact influenced Sweden's attitude toward Norway and Denmark?
4. Will implementation of the pact improve or detract from Scandinavian relations?
5. What faction, if any, of the government officials approve or support the armed services leader's public appeal for closer cooperation with the western powers?